

Rep. Price

**HB 4315--Remarks before the Senate Transportation Committee
Tuesday, June 7, 2011**

Mr. Chair

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify before you today about House Bill 4315.

This bill was a direct result of a suggestion from the Holland Area Veterans Council. This council is comprised of the following organizations: the American Legion, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, Marine Corps League, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Vietnam Veterans of America and I have with me today, in addition to Mr. Jansen who you will meet later, Rich Overway, Greg Kiekintveld and Dan Broe. I appreciate their input and ideas.

This bill would designate that a portion of US 31 be named as "Medal of Honor Recipients Highway" and would particularly honor:

1. Lieutenant Colonel Matt Urban, US Army (WWII)
2. Corporal John Essebagger, Jr., US Army (Korea)-- received the Medal for actions in combat which caused his death
3. Sergeant Gordon Yntema, US Army (VietNam)--received the Medal for actions in combat which caused his death
4. Staff Sergeant (then Sergeant) Paul Ronald Lambers, US Army (VietNam)

The Medal of Honor is the highest military decoration awarded by the United States Government. It is bestowed by the President in the name of Congress on members of the US Armed Forces who distinguish themselves through "conspicuous gallantry" and intrepidity at the risk of his or her life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States.

I request the committee's support for this bill and would ask Mr. Roger Jansen to make a few comments and answer questions you may have.

FYI--Members of the Senate Transportation Committee

Sen. Tom Casperson--Chair

Sen. Mike Kowall--VC

Sen. Jack Brandenburg

Sen. Phil Pavlov

Sen. John Gleason--MVC

Sen. Morris Hood